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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/005,793	11/02/2001	Jacobus Christianus Johannes Stiekema	O/97277 US/D1	3402

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EXAMINER

DI NOLA BARON, LILIANA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1615

DATE MAILED: 06/25/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/005,793

Applicant(s)

JOHANNES STIEKEMA ET AL.

Examiner

Liliana Di Nola-Baron

Art Unit

1615

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --***Period for Reply****A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.**

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 May 2002.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 11-18 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 11-18 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a):

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt of Applicant's amendment, filed on May 21, 2002, is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Petitou et al.

The claimed invention refers to methods for preventing clotting in an extracorporeal blood circuit of a patient, comprising administering a pentasaccharide or a salt thereof.

Petitou et al. discloses sulfated glycosaminoglycanoid derivatives of heparin, and the pentasaccharides claimed in the instant application among them, and teaches that the compounds have antithrombotic activity and can be administered enterally or parenterally, including by injection, in a daily dosage of 0.001-10 mg. per kg. body weight for the treatment of venous thrombosis (See e.g., col. 1, line 1 to col. 5, line 5 and examples).

Thus, Petitou et al. provides the compounds used in the methods of the instant application and teaches that said compounds have antithrombotic activity and may be administered enterally or parenterally, as injection preparations.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to administer the sulfated glycosaminoglycanoid derivatives of heparin disclosed by Petitou et al. by injection to patients undergoing extracorporeal blood treatment, to prevent clotting in the extracorporeal device. The expected result would have been a successful method for preventing blood clotting. Because of the teachings of Petitou et al., that sulfated glycosaminoglycanoid derivatives have antithrombotic activity and can be administered by injection, one of ordinary skill in the art would have a reasonable expectation that the methods claimed in the instant application would be successful. Therefore the invention as a whole would have been *prima facie* obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed May 21, 2002 have been fully considered. Applicant argues that Cialdi et al. teaches the use of anticoagulant polymers and not the compounds claimed in the instant application. Said argument has been found persuasive. Accordingly the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 11-18 over Petitou et al. in view of Cialdi et al. of the previous Office action is withdrawn. The teachings of Petitou et al., however, are considered relevant to the claimed invention, as Petitou et al. teaches that the compounds claimed in the method of the instant application can be administered to a patient by injection for the treatment of thrombosis, i.e. clotting (See Merriam Webster's collegiate dictionary, tenth edition).

Conclusion

4. Claims 11-18 stand rejected.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Liliana Di Nola-Baron whose telephone number is 703-308-8318. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, 5:30AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman K Page can be reached on 703-308-2927. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3592 for regular communications and 703-305-3592 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 308-1234/ 1235.

June 23, 2002


THURMAN K. PAGE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600